

## **Sunday Sermon — Discussion Guide: Gyle Smith, 10-4-20**

### **Why the Kingdom?**

#### **1/3 — Looking Back**

Start with prayer and/or worship (reading a Psalm, singing a song, giving thanks, etc.). Re-cast the vision (see example video [here](#)), review obedience goals from the previous week, and ask how everybody is doing. Check-in question options:

- Up/In/Out — How are you doing in your three primary relational spheres? (Up: *God*. In: *fellow believers and family*. Out: *unbelievers*)
- Highs/Lows: What was your “high” and your “low” from the past week?

#### **2/3 — Looking to Jesus in the Present**

Explore these Scripture passages together: Revelation 21:3; John 1:14; Exodus 25:8; 2 Chronicles 7:2, 16

- As the facilitator, first read the passages aloud and invite the other members of the group to just listen and take note of what stands out to them. You may want to read these more than once.
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from these passages about who God is and what He does?*”
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from these passages about who we are and what we do?*”
- Alternative question: “*how does the thought of being invited to make your home in God and with God shape your imagination about the future?*”
- Alternative question: “*how does the thought of God making His home in us with us shape your imagination about life in the here and now?*”

#### **3/3 — Looking Forward**

Ask Jesus how he wants you to respond (corporately and individually) to what you have heard and learned. You can also practice the following exercise:

- Sit quietly together in Jesus’ presence and ask yourself the question, “*What are the practical implications of God’s kingdom being my true home?*” Pay special attention to whatever longings, emotions or mental images surface in your mind and heart, and remain open to however the Spirit may want to speak to you through them. Reflect on what changes you may need to make in your daily life if the things you have discussed are actually true. Does your current lifestyle—the way you *think, speak, act, and live* overall, reflect God’s desire to make His home in/with you, or His desire for you to make your home in/with Him? After some time of personal reflection, share your thoughts with one another as a group. End your time by praying together, asking Jesus for continued revelation about what it means that we are His home, and that He is ours.